In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the

Application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for configuring a data storage system, the method

comprising the steps of:

presenting a user interface;

receiving information related to workload characteristics and performance characteristics

through the user interface; and

presenting storage configuration information for the data storage system that is based on

these characteristics through the user interface;

wherein the performance characteristics include read and write characteristics associated

with data to be stored on the data storage system.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the storage configuration information

includes information related to an amount of storage space associated with a quantity of disk

drives for the data storage system.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the workload characteristics include IO

operations per unit of time.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim ~~4~~ 1, wherein the read and write characteristics include random read hits information.

6. (Original)   The method of claim 5, wherein the read and write characteristics include random read misses information.

7. (Original)   The method of claim 5, wherein the read and write characteristics include sequential reads information.

8. (Original)   The method of claim 5, wherein the read and write characteristics include writes information.

9. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 2, wherein the information ~~about storage space available on each disk~~ related to an amount of storage space associated with a quantity of disk drives is based at least in part on information about physical partitions on each disk.

10. (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the information about performance characteristics is based at least in part on a user provided performance comfort zone value.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the information about performance

characteristics is based at least in part on information about a data protection scheme used with

the data storage system.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the data protection scheme is a Raid scheme.

13. (Currently Amended) A system for configuring a data storage system, the system

comprising:

    a computer having a memory and a display;

    logic in memory, wherein the logic is configured for execution of the following steps:

        presenting a user interface;

        receiving information related to workload characteristics and performance

characteristics through the user interface; and

        presenting storage configuration information for the data storage system that is

based on these characteristics through the user interface;

        <u>wherein the performance characteristics include read and write characteristics associated</u>

<u>with data to be stored on the data storage system.</u>

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 13, wherein the storage configuration

information includes information related to an amount <u>of</u> storage space associated with a

quantity of disk drives for the data storage system.

15. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the workload characteristics include IO operations per unit of time.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~16~~ 13, wherein the read and write characteristics include random read hits information.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the read and write characteristics include random read misses information.

19. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the read and write characteristics include sequential reads information.

20. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the read and write characteristics include writes information.

21. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, wherein the information ~~about storage space available on each disk~~ related to an amount of storage space associated with a quantity of disk drives is based at least in part on information about physical partitions on each disk.

22. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the information about performance

characteristics is based at least in part on a user provided performance comfort zone value.

23. (Original) The system of claim 22, wherein the information about performance

characteristics is based at least in part on information about a data protection scheme used with

the data storage system.

24. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the data protection scheme is a Raid scheme.

25. (Currently Amended) A program product for configuring a data storage system, the

program product including a computer readable tangible medium with logic configured for

causing the following computer-executed steps to occur:

        presenting a user interface;

        receiving information related to workload characteristics and performance characteristics

through the user interface; and

        presenting storage configuration information for the data storage system that is based on

these characteristics through the user interface;

        wherein the performance characteristics include read and write characteristics associated

with data to be stored on the data storage system; and

        wherein the read and write characteristics include random read hits information.

26. (New) A method for configuring a data storage system, the method comprising the steps of:

presenting a user interface;

receiving information related to workload characteristics and performance characteristics through the user interface;

presenting storage configuration information for the data storage system that is based on these characteristics through the user interface;

wherein the performance characteristics include read and write characteristics associated with data to be stored on the data storage system; and

wherein the read and write characteristics include random read hits information.

27. (New)   The method of claim 26, wherein the read and write characteristics include random read misses information.

28. (New)   The method of claim 26, wherein the read and write characteristics include sequential reads information.

29. (New)   The method of claim 26, wherein the read and write characteristics include writes information.

30. (New)   The method of claim 26, wherein the storage configuration information includes information related to an amount of storage space associated with a quantity of disk drives for the data storage system.

31. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the information related to an amount of storage

space associated with a quantity of disk drives is based at least in part on information about

physical partitions on each disk.

32. (New) A system for configuring a data storage system, the system comprising:

      a computer having a memory and a display;

      logic in memory, wherein the logic is configured for execution of the following steps:

            presenting a user interface;

            receiving information related to workload characteristics and performance

characteristics through the user interface; and

            presenting storage configuration information for the data storage system that is

based on these characteristics through the user interface;

      wherein the performance characteristics include read and write characteristics associated

with data to be stored on the data storage system; and

      wherein the read and write characteristics include random read hits information.

33. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the read and write characteristics include random

read misses information.

34. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the read and write characteristics include

sequential reads information.

35. (New)   The method of claim 32, wherein the read and write characteristics include writes information.

36. (New)   The method of claim 32, wherein the storage configuration information includes information related to an amount of storage space associated with a quantity of disk drives for the data storage system.

37. (New)   The method of claim 36, wherein the information related to an amount of storage space associated with a quantity of disk drives is based at least in part on information about physical partitions on each disk.